OCCUPATIONAL INJURIES AND DISEASES IN **ALBERTA**

Lost-Time Claims and Claim Rates

Alberta Construction Safety Association Industries

2001 to 2005

Released July 2006

WORK SAFE ALBERTA

Alberta Human Resources and Employment

Building Alberta's Workforce

106-07364/

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Highlights ii

1. Introduction 1

2. Lost-Time Claim Rate and Duration Rate 3
2.1 Lost-Time Claim Rate by Size of Employer 5
2.2 Lost-Time Claims by ACSA Sub-Sector 5

3. Injury and Disease Analysis 11
3.1 Injured Worker Characteristics 11
3.2 Nature of Injury or Disease 13
3.3 Part of Body Injured 15
3.4 Source of Injury or Disease 17
3.5 Type of Event or Exposure 19
3.6 Duration of Disability 22

4. Occupational Fatalities 24

5. Certificate of Recognition Employers 28

Appendix A: Terms, Definitions and Formulas 30

Appendix B: ACSA WCB Industry Codes 33

Contact Information 35

HIGHLIGHTS

From 2001 to 2005...

- There were 29,675 lost-time claims from workers in the Alberta Construction Safety Association (ACSA) industries. Of those, 27.3% involved Construction Trade Services, while Industrial Construction accounted for 25.6% of all claims.
- Sprains, strains and tears were the most common nature of injury, accounting for 42.1% of the total lost-time claims.
- The trunk was the most common body part injured, accounting for 35.8% of the total claims.
- More than one-third of accident types involved overexertion or being struck by objects.
- Injured workers 25 to 44 years of age accounted for over half of the total claims.

In 2005...

- The Workers' Compensation Board (WCB) – Alberta accepted 5,754 lost-time claims from ACSA workers, representing 16.2% of all lost-time claims in the province.
- The lost-time claim rate for the ACSA industries was 2.7 per 100 person-years, as compared to the provincial rate of 2.4. This was the lowest lost-time claim rate achieved over the past five years.
- The duration rate for the ACSA industries was 93 days lost per 100 person-years compared to the provincial rate of 57 per 100 person-years.
- Roadbuilders had the lowest lost-time claim rate of all ACSA sub-sectors, at 2.1 per 100 person-years. Masonry had the highest lost-time claim rate, at 7.4 per 100 person-years.
- Employers with 20 to 39 person-years had the highest lost-time claim rate of 3.7 per 100 person-years.
- In the ACSA industries, 5.5% of all employers had a valid Certificate of Recognition (COR).
- The WCB accepted 53 occupational fatalities for compensation in the ACSA industries, representing 37.1% of all workplace fatalities accepted in Alberta.

SECTION 1

INTRODUCTION

Role of Alberta Human Resources and Employment

Alberta Human Resources and Employment (AHRE) provides a continuum of services and information to support the development of a skilled and productive labour force; fair, safe, healthy and productive workplaces; and helping improve the well-being of Albertans. AHRE develops and delivers programs and services that contribute to workplaces for employees and employers by:

- working with industry and safety associations to audit and certify health and safety programs
- helping employers, employees, unions and industry associations work together by offering facilitation services, workshops and partnership opportunities
- developing and maintaining policy and legislated employment standards in Alberta
- preparing and providing ongoing support of Alberta's workplace health and safety regulations
- explaining legislated standards under the *Occupational Health and Safety Act* and the *Employment Standards Code* and ensuring compliance through complaint resolution, investigation and targeted inspections.

Occupational Injuries and Diseases in ACSA Industries 2001 to 2005

Each year, AHRE prepares a report on the occupational injuries and diseases in the ACSA industries to provide a detailed review of workplace health and safety. The purpose of this report is to provide government, employers, workers, and health and safety professionals in the ACSA industries with information about key health and safety issues. This report includes:

- an estimation of the risk of injury or disease in addition to general descriptive information about incidents and injured workers
- the number of employers that earned a Certificate of Recognition (COR)
- occupational fatalities accepted by the WCB for compensation and fatality rates for the ACSA industries.

Notes about this report:

- This report presents 2005 data beside 2004 data to help with comparisons. Additional historical data are presented where possible.

- Throughout the report, the lost-time claim rate is the number of claims per 100 person-years, and the duration rate is the number of days lost per 100 person-years.

- In 2005, improvements have been made to the data collection. A stricter definition of a lost-time claim has been adopted and applied to the data covering the period 2001 to 2005. Previously, a small proportion of modified-work claims were also captured as lost-time.

- Improvements have also been made in the analysis by workers occupation. The 2001 National Occupation Classification (NOC) has been adopted for the presentation of figures by occupation. The NOC 2001 provides a standardized framework reflecting the Canadian labour market. For further information please see http://www23.hrdc-drhc.gc.ca/2001/e/generic/welcome.shtml

- Terms, definitions and formulas are described in Appendix A. Industry codes are listed in Appendix B.

SECTION 2

LOST-TIME CLAIM RATE AND DURATION RATE

The lost-time claim rate[1] represents the probability or risk of a disabling injury or disease to a worker during a period of one year. The 2005 lost-time claim rate for the ACSA industries was 2.7 per 100 person-years.

In 2005, there were 5,754 lost-time claims in the ACSA industries, representing 16.2% of all lost-time claims in the province. The ACSA industries' lost-time claim rate was 2.7 per 100 person-years, a decrease of 12.2% from 2004 and the lowest rate over the last five years (see Table 2.0). The 2005 provincial lost-time claim rate was 2.4 per 100 person-years. The lost-time claim rate of 2.7 per 100 person-years translates to 14 lost-time claims per million hours worked.

The duration rate is intended to show the severity of occupational injury and disease as reflected by the number of days off work per 100 person-years. In 2005, the ACSA industries had a duration rate of 93, the lowest in the last five years and 61.3% higher than the provincial duration rate of 57.

Table 2.0
ACSA Industries — Alberta: 2001-2005

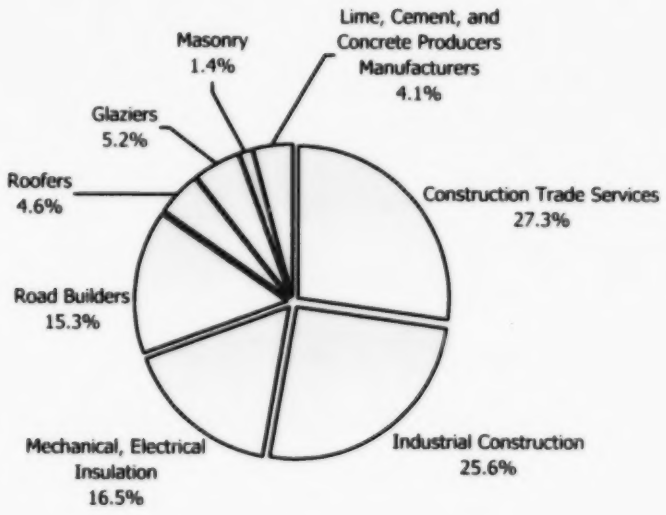
Year	Number of Accounts	Cost of Claims	Person-Years	Days Lost	Duration Rate	Lost-Time Claims	Lost Time Claim Rate
2001	31,594	$38,961,506	148,393	272,422	184	6,140	4.1
2002	33,206	$47,841,157	160,389	300,008	187	6,341	4.0
2003	34,694	$45,764,550	166,221	245,952	148	5,892	3.5
2004	36,045	$43,407,879	178,259	204,256	115	5,548	3.1
2005	**39,089**	**$46,491,899**	**210,521**	**195,336**	**93**	**5,754**	**2.7**

Data Source: 2005 WCB Data, Prepared by Data Development and Evaluation

[1] The rate has been calculated from lost-time claims data as of March 31, 2005. This rate underestimates the risk of occupational injury and disease since some lost-time claims that occurred in 2005 were not administered by March 31, 2006.

Between 2001 and 2005, there were 29,675 lost-time claims in the ACSA industries. Construction Trade Services accounted for 27.3%. Industrial Construction accounted for 25.6% of the total lost-time claims. The Masonry sub-sector experienced the fewest lost-time claims, with 1.4% of total claims (see Chart 2.0).

Chart 2.0
Percentage of Lost-Time Claims by ACSA Sub-Sector — Alberta: 2001-2005



Data Source: 2005 WCB Data, Prepared by Data Development and Evaluation

2.1 Lost-Time Claim Rate by Size of Employer

In the ACSA industries, employers with 20 to 39 person-years had the highest lost-time claim rate of 3.7 per 100 person-years. Employers with 100 or more person-years had the lowest lost-time claim rate at 1.6. For the province, employers with 20 to 39 and 40 to 99 person-years had the highest lost-time claim rate while employers with less than 10 person-years had the lowest lost-time claim rate (see Table 2.1).

Table 2.1
Lost-Time Claim Rate by Size[2] of Employer — Alberta: 2005

Size of Employer	Number of Accounts	Lost-Time Claims	Person-Years	Lost-Time Claim Rate
Less than 10 person-years	35,147	1671	48,120	3.5
10 to 19 person-years	1,382	656	19,474	3.4
20 to 39 person-years	857	892	24,136	3.7
40 to 99 person-years	569	1160	34,579	3.4
100 or more person-years	285	1330	84,211	1.6
Unspecified	849	45	0	N/A [1]

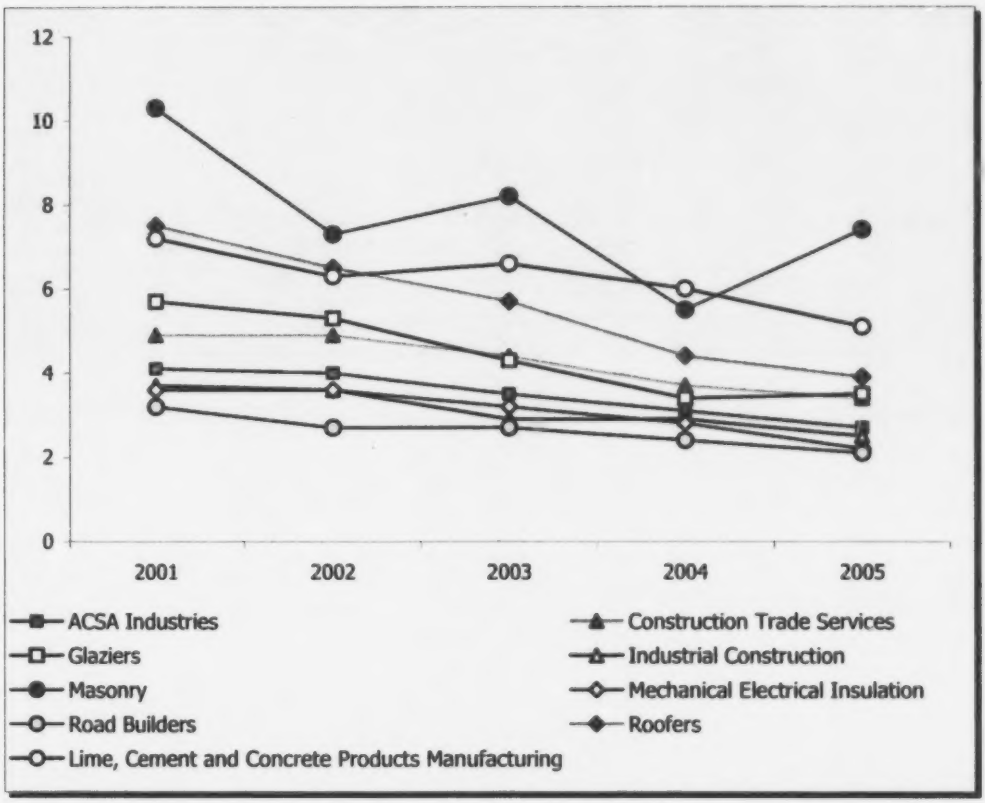
[1] These are employers with no payroll information or with person-years equal to zero.
Data Source: 2005 WCB Data. Prepared by Data Development and Evaluation

2.2 Lost-Time Claims by ACSA Sub-Sector

Between 2001 and 2005, the Masonry sub-sector had the highest lost-time claim rate each year except for 2004, when the Lime, Cement and Concrete Products Manufacturing sub-sector had the highest rate. The Roadbuilders sub-sector had the lowest rate each year (see Chart 2.2).

[2] Size is measured in terms of person-years.

Chart 2.2
Lost-Time Claim Rate by ACSA Sub-Sector — Alberta: 2001-2005



Sub-Sector	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
ACSA Industries	4.1	4.0	3.5	3.1	**2.7**
Construction Trade Services	4.9	4.9	4.4	3.7	**3.4**
Glaziers	5.7	5.3	4.3	3.4	**3.5**
Industrial Construction	3.7	3.6	2.9	2.9	**2.5**
Masonry	10.3	7.3	8.2	5.5	**7.4**
Mechanical, Electrical Insulation	3.6	3.6	3.2	2.8	**2.2**
Road Builders	3.2	2.7	2.7	2.4	**2.1**
Roofers	7.5	6.5	5.7	4.4	**3.9**
Lime, Cement, and Concrete Producers Manufacturing	7.2	6.3	6.6	6.0	**5.1**

Data Source: 2005 WCB Data, Prepared by Data Development and Evaluation

2.2A Construction Trade Services

In 2005, the Construction Trade Services sub-sector had a lost-time claim rate of 3.4 per 100 person-years, the lowest rate over the past five years for this sub-sector. The duration rate was 137 days lost per 100 person-years, a decrease of 11.0% from 2004 and also the lowest over the past five years (see Table 2.2A).

Table 2.2A
Construction Trade Services — Alberta: 2001-2005

Year	Number of Accounts	Cost of Claims	Person-Years	Days Lost	Duration Rate	Lost-Time Claims	Lost-Time Claim Rate
2001	11,287	$9,085,544	31,293	73,495	235	1,546	4.9
2002	12,185	$12,563,135	36,952	87,647	237	1,819	4.9
2003	12,954	$14,458,976	38,966	81,177	208	1,719	4.4
2004	13,140	$11,161,118	40,607	62,711	154	1,483	3.7
2005	**13,991**	**$12,404,388**	**45,020**	**61,649**	**137**	**1,529**	**3.4**

Data Source: 2005 WCB Data, Prepared by Data Development and Evaluation

2.2B Glaziers

The Glaziers sub-sector had a lost-time claim rate of 3.5 per 100 person-years in 2005, a rise in the rate observed in 2004. The duration rate was 85 days lost per 100 person-years, an increase of 10.4% in 2004 (see Table 2.2B).

Table 2.2B
Glaziers — Alberta: 2001-2005

Year	Number of Accounts	Cost of Claims	Person-Years	Days Lost	Duration Rate	Lost-Time Claims	Lost-Time Claim Rate
2001	551	$1,244,186	6,444	9,997	155	366	5.7
2002	548	$1,471,605	6,668	9,067	136	353	5.3
2003	579	$1,366,508	7,089	7,790	110	308	4.3
2004	592	$1,048,289	7,402	5,668	77	249	3.4
2005	**627**	**$1,165,007**	**7,734**	**6,549**	**85**	**273**	**3.5**

Data Source: 2005 WCB Data, Prepared by Data Development and Evaluation

2.2C Industrial Construction

Industrial Construction had a lost-time claim rate of 2.5 per 100 person-years in 2005, a decrease of 13.4% from 2004 rate in this sub-sector. The duration rate decreased from 107 days lost per 100 person-years in 2004, to 78 in 2005 (see Table 2.2C).

Table 2.2C
Industrial Construction — Alberta: 2001-2005

Year	Number of Accounts	Cost of Claims	Person-Years	Days Lost	Duration Rate	Lost-Time Claims	Lost-Time Claim Rate
2001	7,094	$11,973,664	44,241	77,555	175	1,628	3.7
2002	7,290	$13,296,770	45,185	82,805	183	1,622	3.6
2003	7,337	$10,617,367	46,478	54,822	118	1,351	2.9
2004	7,785	$10,687,315	49,325	52,660	107	1,436	2.9
2005	**8,857**	**$11,739,074**	**61,383**	**47,602**	**78**	**1,548**	**2.5**

Data Source: 2005 WCB Data, Prepared by Data Development and Evaluation

2.2D Masonry

The Masonry sub-sector experienced a 33.3% increase in the lost-time claim rate from 5.5 in 2005, to 7.4 per 100 person-years in 2005. The duration rate was 281 days lost per 100 person-years, an increase of 31.3% from the previous year (see Table 2.2D).

Table 2.2D
Masonry — Alberta: 2001-2005

Year	Number of Accounts	Cost of Claims	Person-Years	Days Lost	Duration Rate	Lost-Time Claims	Lost-Time Claim Rate
2001	232	$429,039	993	3,223	324	102	10.3
2002	241	$767,108	1,098	3,242	295	80	7.3
2003	275	$584,013	1,101	3,068	279	90	8.2
2004	270	$800,570	1,084	2,325	214	60	5.5
2005	**287**	**$787,702**	**1,071**	**3,006**	**281**	**79**	**7.4**

Data Source: 2005 WCB Data, Prepared by Data Development and Evaluation

2.2E Mechanical, Electrical Insulation

The Mechanical, Electrical Insulation lost-time claim rate decreased from 2.8 in 2004 to 2.2 per 100 person-years in 2005, the lowest rate in the last five years. The duration rate experienced a 21.7% decrease from 69 in 2004 to 54 per 100 person-years in 2005 (see Table 2.2E).

Table 2.2E
Mechanical, Electrical Insulation — Alberta: 2001-2005

Year	Number of Accounts	Cost of Claims	Person-Years	Days Lost	Duration Rate	Lost-Time Claims	Lost-Time Claim Rate
2001	4,198	$4,921,026	28,493	30,642	108	1,013	3.6
2002	4,380	$6,852,228	30,733	41,540	135	1,104	3.6
2003	4,573	$4,919,137	31,089	26,217	84	999	3.2
2004	4,792	$5,512,683	32,640	22,678	69	908	2.8
2005	**5,071**	**$6,435,040**	**39,775**	**21,434**	**54**	**886**	**2.2**

Data Source: 2005 WCB Data, Prepared by Data Development and Evaluation

2.2F Roadbuilders

The lost-time claim rate for the Roadbuilders sub-sector fell from 2.4 in 2004 to 2.1 per 100 person-years in 2005. The duration rate was 86 days lost per 100 person-years, the lowest in the past five years and a 12.2% decrease from 2004 (see Table 2.2F).

Table 2.2F
Roadbuilders — Alberta: 2001-2005

Year	Number of Accounts	Cost of Claims	Person-Years	Days Lost	Duration Rate	Lost-Time Claims	Lost-Time Claim Rate
2001	6,272	$8,024,295	29,587	52,417	177	944	3.2
2002	6,481	$8,551,226	31,658	47,751	151	845	2.7
2003	6,742	$9,089,190	32,972	45,361	138	903	2.7
2004	7,098	$9,847,707	37,279	36,448	98	907	2.4
2005	**7,703**	**$10,099,682**	**44,360**	**38,208**	**86**	**948**	**2.1**

Data Source: 2005 WCB Data, Prepared by Data Development and Evaluation

2.2G Roofers

In 2005, the Roofers sub-sector experienced an 11.9% decrease in the lost-time claim rate from 4.4 to 3.9 per 100 person-years, the lowest in the past five years. The duration rate was 157 per 100 person-years, the lowest in the past five years and a 25.9% reduction from 2004 (see Table 2.2G).

Table 2.2G
Roofers — Alberta: 2001-2005

Year	Number of Accounts	Cost of Claims	Person-Years	Days Lost	Duration Rate	Lost-Time Claims	Lost-Time Claim Rate
2001	984	$1,902,962	4,114	14,792	360	308	7.5
2002	1,005	$2,551,131	4,543	15,129	333	293	6.5
2003	1,084	$3,005,772	4,696	15,441	329	270	5.7
2004	1,162	$2,417,100	5,622	11,893	212	249	4.4
2005	**1,257**	**$2,250,667**	**6,485**	**10,196**	**157**	**253**	**3.9**

Data Source: 2005 WCB Data, Prepared by Data Development and Evaluation

2.2H Lime, Cement and Concrete Products Manufacturing

The lost-time claim rate for the Lime, Cement and Concrete Products Manufacturing sub-sector was 5.1 per 100 person-years in 2005, a 14.8% decrease from 2004. The duration rate was 143 days lost per 100 person-years, the lowest in the past five years and a 37.8% reduction from the previous year (see Table 2.2H).

Table 2.2H
Lime, Cement and Concrete Products Manufacturing — Alberta: 2001-2005

Year	Number of Accounts	Cost of Claims	Person-Years	Days Lost	Duration Rate	Lost-Time Claims	Lost-Time Claim Rate
2001	976	$1,380,790	3,228	10,301	319	233	7.2
2002	1,076	$1,787,955	3,553	12,827	361	225	6.3
2003	1,150	$1,723,588	3,829	12,076	315	252	6.6
2004	1,206	$1,933,097	4,300	9,873	230	256	6.0
2005	**1,296**	**$1,610,339**	**4,691**	**6,692**	**143**	**238**	**5.1**

Data Source: 2005 WCB Data, Prepared by Data Development and Evaluation

SECTION 3

INJURY AND DISEASE ANALYSIS

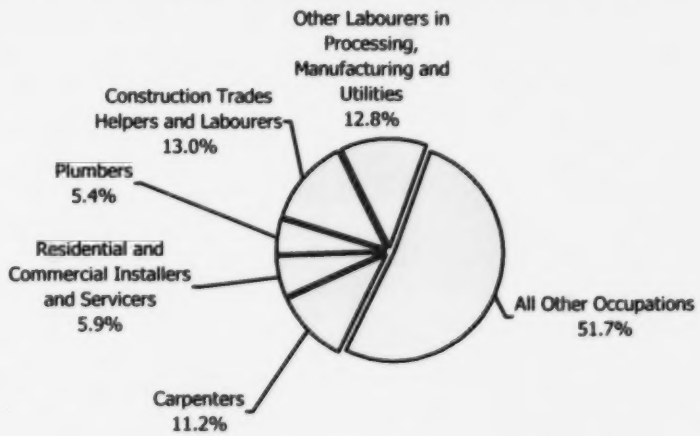
Overexertion was the most common cause for lost-time claims in the ACSA industries. Sprains, strains and tears continued to be the leading nature of injury with the trunk being the most commonly injured body part.

In this section, we examine the characteristics of the injured workers and the nature of their injuries or diseases. Tables are provided to enable comparisons of 2005 injuries and diseases in ACSA industries with provincial averages and trends. A detailed explanation of the formulas for calculating the indicators of the comparison tables is available in Appendix A.

3.1 Injured Worker Characteristics

In 2005, five occupations accounted for 48.3% of all claims in the ACSA industries. construction trades helpers and labourers had the most claims accounting for 13.0% of all claims (see Chart 3.1A).

Chart 3.1A
Lost-Time Claims by Occupation — Alberta: 2005


Other Labourers in Processing, Manufacturing and Utilities 12.8%
Construction Trades Helpers and Labourers 13.0%
Plumbers 5.4%
Residential and Commercial Installers and Servicers 5.9%
Carpenters 11.2%
All Other Occupations 51.7%

Data Source: 2005 WCB Data, Prepared by Data Development and Evaluation

Between 2001 and 2005, more than half of claims were from workers aged 25 to 44 years. Young workers aged 15 to 24 accounted for 22.3% of total claims, while workers aged 45 years and older had 24.8% of claims (see Table 3.1A).

Table 3.1A
Lost-Time Claims by Age — Alberta: 2001-2005

Age	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	Total Lost-Time Claim	%
15-19 Years	340	366	351	301	**357**	1,715	5.8%
20-24 Years	997	1,047	1,012	912	**938**	4,906	16.5%
25-34 Years	1,720	1,751	1,594	1,489	**1,503**	8,057	27.2%
35-44 Years	1,641	1,685	1,492	1,428	**1,373**	7,619	25.7%
45-54 Years	996	1,037	939	941	**1,039**	4,952	16.7%
55-64 Years	385	410	430	409	**441**	2,075	7.0%
65+ Years	49	41	71	64	**99**	324	1.1%
Unspecified	12	4	3	4	**4**	27	0.1%
Total	**6,140**	**6,341**	**5,892**	**5,548**	**5,754**	**29,675**	**100.0%**

Data Source: 2005 WCB Data, Prepared by Data Development and Evaluation

In the ACSA industries, the majority of lost-time claims were from men. Between 2001 and 2005, 92.4% of claims involved men. Women accounted for 5.3% of total claims and the number of claims varied from year to year (see Table 3.1B). The proportion of injuries broadly reflects the labour market make-up of the Construction industry where men comprise approximately 87% of the labour force[3].

Table 3.1B
Lost-Time Claims by Gender — Alberta: 2001-2005

Gender	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	Total Lost-Time Claims	%
Female	302	312	297	297	**371**	1,579	5.3%
Male	5,683	5,857	5,432	5,148	**5,291**	27,411	92.4%
Unspecified	155	172	163	103	**92**	685	2.3%
Total	**6,140**	**6,341**	**5,892**	**5,548**	**5,754**	**29,675**	**100.0%**

Data Source: 2005 WCB Data, Prepared by Data Development and Evaluation

[3] Statistics Canada's Labour Force Survey (2005 Historical Review).

3.2 Nature of Injury or Disease

The nature of injury is used to identify the physical characteristics of the injury or disease. Between 2001 and 2005, 89% of all the lost-time claims were caused by traumatic injuries and disorders. The four most common traumatic injuries and disorders were: sprains, strains and tears, 42.1%; fractures and dislocations, 13.8%; open wounds, 11.4%; and surface wounds and bruises, 9.9% (see Table 3.2A).

Table 3.2A
Nature of Injury or Disease — Alberta: 2001-2005

Nature of Injury or Disease	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	Total Lost-Time Claims	Total %
Traumatic Injuries and Disorders	**5,462**	**5,626**	**5,287**	**4,940**	**5,198**	**26,513**	**89.3%**
Sprains, Strains and Tears	2,642	2,741	2,467	2,230	2,422	12,502	42.1%
Fractures and Dislocations	850	838	781	821	793	4,083	13.8%
Open Wounds	663	731	715	633	638	3,380	11.4%
Surface Wounds and Bruises	644	587	571	556	593	2,951	9.9%
Burns	110	102	123	84	104	523	1.8%
Other Traumatic Injuries and Diseases	553	627	630	616	648	3,074	10.4%
Systemic Diseases and Disorders	**359**	**353**	**321**	**352**	**294**	**1,679**	**5.7%**
Symptoms, Signs and Ill-Defined Conditions	**13**	**15**	**16**	**14**	**10**	**68**	**0.2%**
Other Diseases, Conditions and Disorders	**4**	**5**	**2**	**3**	**5**	**19**	**0.1%**
Multiple Diseases, Conditions and Disorders	**4**	**4**	**3**	**0**	**4**	**15**	**0.1%**
Neoplasms, Tumors and Cancer	**3**	**2**	**3**	**3**	**4**	**15**	**0.1%**
Infectious and Parasitic Diseases	**1**	**2**	**1**	**3**	**1**	**8**	**<0.1%**
Nature of Injury - Unknown	**294**	**334**	**259**	**233**	**238**	**1,355**	**4.6%**
Total	**6,140**	**6,341**	**5,892**	**5,548**	**5,754**	**29,675**	**100.0%**

Data Source: 2005 WCB Data, Prepared by Data Development and Evaluation

In 2005, sprains, strains and tears accounted for 42.1% of all claims in the ACSA industries. This was 1.1 times higher than the average percentage of injuries for this nature of injury category for the whole province. Percentages of injuries in all nature of injury categories were equal to or higher than the provincial average, except burns, other diseases, conditions and disorders, infectious and parasitic diseases, and symptoms, signs and ill–defined conditions (see Table 3.2B).

Table 3.2B
Nature of Injury or Disease — Comparison 2005[4]

Nature of Injury or Disease	% of ACSA Industries' Claims	% of Total Provincial Claims	Number of Times Higher/Lower Than the Provincial Average
Traumatic Injuries and Disease	**90.4%**	**90.9%**	**1.1**
Sprains, Strains and Tears	42.1%	47.6%	1.0
Fractures and Dislocations	13.8%	8.9%	1.8
Open Wounds	11.1%	9.2%	1.4
Surface Wounds and Bruises	10.3%	11.5%	1.0
Burns	1.8%	2.7%	0.8
Other Traumatic Injuries and Diseases	11.3%	10.9%	1.2
Systemic Diseases and Disorders	**5.1%**	**4.9%**	**1.2**
Symptoms, Signs and Ill-Defined Conditions	**0.2%**	**0.3%**	**0.6**
Other Diseases, Conditions and Disorders	**0.1%**	**0.2%**	**0.4**
Multiple Diseases, Conditions and Disorders	**0.1%**	**<0.1%**	**3.5**
Neoplasms, Tumors and Cancer	**0.1%**	**<0.1%**	**2.6**
Infectious and Parasitic Diseases	**<0.1%**	**<0.1%**	**0.5**
Nature of Injury - Unknown	**4.1%**	**3.5%**	**1.3**

Data Source: 2005 WCB Data, Prepared by Data Development and Evaluation

[4] Number of Times Higher/Lower than the Provincial Average: 1 indicates that the injury percentage of the industries is equal to the provincial average; greater than 1 indicates that the injury percentage of the industries is higher than the provincial average; less than 1 indicates that the injury percentage of the industries is lower than the provincial average. See Appendix A for calculation details.

3.3 Part of Body Injured

Between 2001 and 2005, the trunk was the most commonly injured body part, accounting for over one-third of the total lost-time claims in the ACSA industries. This was followed by injuries to the upper extremities at 24.5%, and lower extremities at 23.0%. The most common trunk injury was to the back, including spine and spinal cord, accounting for 22.7% of the total lost-time claims (see Table 3.3A).

Table 3.3A
Part of Body Injured — Alberta: 2001-2005

Part of Body Injured	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	Total Lost-Time Claims	Total %
Trunk	**2,260**	**2,280**	**2,107**	**1,971**	**2,019**	**10,637**	**35.8%**
Back, Including Spine, Spinal Cord	1,454	1,456	1,330	1,228	1,271	6,739	22.7%
Other Trunk	806	824	777	743	748	3,898	13.1%
Upper Extremities	**1,535**	**1,564**	**1,412**	**1,400**	**1,346**	**7,257**	**24.5%**
Wrist(s) and Hand(s) Except Finger(s)	602	616	567	553	521	2,859	9.6%
Finger(s), Fingernail(s)	525	551	496	492	483	2,547	8.6%
Other Upper Extremities	408	397	349	355	342	1,851	6.2%
Lower Extremities	**1,371**	**1,421**	**1,378**	**1,242**	**1,412**	**6,824**	**23.0%**
Leg(s)	646	700	655	610	737	3,348	11.3%
Ankle(s) and Foot (Feet) Except Toes	652	640	632	549	608	3,081	10.4%
Other Lower Extremities	73	81	91	83	67	395	1.3%
Head	**420**	**394**	**452**	**415**	**454**	**2,135**	**7.2%**
Eye(s)	207	185	212	186	200	990	3.3%
Other Head Parts	213	209	240	229	254	1,145	3.9%
Multiple Body Parts	**358**	**516**	**398**	**348**	**373**	**1,993**	**6.7%**
Neck, Including Throat	**153**	**126**	**114**	**125**	**115**	**633**	**2.1%**
Body Systems	**18**	**19**	**13**	**24**	**17**	**91**	**0.3%**
Other Body Parts	**2**	**1**	**0**	**2**	**1**	**6**	**<0.1%**
Part of Body - Unknown	**23**	**20**	**18**	**21**	**17**	**99**	**0.3%**
Total	**6,140**	**6,341**	**5,892**	**5,548**	**5,754**	**29,675**	**100.0%**

Data Source: 2005 WCB Data, Prepared by Data Development and Evaluation

In 2005, the back, including spine and spinal cord, accounted for 22.1% of all claims in the ACSA industries. The average percentage of injuries for this part of body category was equal to the whole province. Percentages of injuries in all part of body categories were greater than or equal to the provincial average except body systems and other body parts (see Table 3.3B).

Table 3.3B
Part of Body Injured — Comparison 2005[5]

Part of Body Injured	% of ACSA Industries' Claims	% of Total Provincial Claims	Number of Times Higher/Lower Than the Province
Trunk	**35.1%**	**38.6%**	**1.0**
Back, Including Spine, Spinal Cord	22.1%	26.0%	1.0
Other Trunk	13.0%	12.6%	1.2
Upper Extremities	**23.4%**	**23.8%**	**1.1**
Wrist(s) and Hand(s) Except Finger(s)	9.1%	9.2%	1.1
Finger(s), Fingernail(s)	8.4%	8.1%	1.2
Other Upper Extremities	5.9%	6.5%	1.0
Lower Extremities	**24.6%**	**19.8%**	**1.4**
Leg(s)	12.8%	9.8%	1.5
Ankle(s) and Foot (Feet) Except Toes	10.6%	8.8%	1.4
Other Lower Extremities	1.2%	1.2%	1.1
Head	**7.9%**	**7.9%**	**1.1**
Eye(s)	3.5%	3.2%	1.2
Other Head Parts	4.4%	4.7%	1.1
Multiple Body Parts	**6.5%**	**7.0%**	**1.1**
Neck, Including Throat	**2.0%**	**2.3%**	**1.0**
Body Systems	**0.3%**	**0.5%**	**0.7**
Part of Body - Unknown	**0.2%**	**0.2%**	**1.4**
Other Body Parts	**<0.1%**	**0.1%**	**0.4**

Data Source: 2005 WCB Data, Prepared by Data Development and Evaluation

[5] Number of Times Higher/Lower than the Provincial Average: 1 indicates that the injury percentage of the industries is equal to the provincial average; greater than 1 indicates that the injury percentage of the industries is higher than the provincial average; less than 1 indicates that the injury percentage of the industries is lower than the provincial average. See Appendix A for calculation details.

3.4 Source of Injury or Disease

The source of injury or disease describes the object or substance that the worker came into contact with resulting in an injury or disease. Between 2001 and 2005, the two primary sources of injury in the ACSA industries were structures and surfaces and parts and materials accounting for 20.9% and 17.2% of total claims respectively (see Table 3.4A).

Table 3.4A
Source of Injury or Disease — Alberta: 2001-2005

Source of Injury or Disease	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	Total Lost-Time Claims	%
Structures and Surfaces	**1,155**	**1,332**	**1,263**	**1,155**	**1,295**	**6,200**	**20.9%**
Parts and Materials	**1,088**	**1,023**	**1,033**	**947**	**1,018**	**5,109**	**17.2%**
Persons, Plants, Animals and Minerals	**936**	**1,059**	**1,057**	**978**	**1,004**	**5,034**	**17.0%**
Person - Injured or Ill Worker	810	972	944	882	891	4,499	**15.2%**
Minerals - Metallic or Nonmetallic (except fuel)	73	45	57	45	73	293	1.0%
Person - Other Than Injured or Ill Worker [1]	4	4	14	16	9	47	0.2%
Other Persons, Plants, Animals & Minerals	49	38	42	35	31	195	0.7%
Tools, Instruments and Equipment	**476**	**489**	**502**	**454**	**479**	**2,400**	**8.1%**
Hand tools - Powered	109	129	121	109	130	598	2.0%
Hand tools - Non powered	241	231	250	216	206	1,144	3.9%
Other Tools and Equipments	126	129	131	129	143	658	2.2%
Vehicles	**320**	**321**	**303**	**313**	**352**	**1,609**	**5.4%**
Containers [2]	**367**	**298**	**288**	**287**	**307**	**1,547**	**5.2%**
Machinery	**297**	**309**	**301**	**297**	**306**	**1,510**	**5.1%**
Furniture and Fixtures	**83**	**104**	**104**	**81**	**81**	**453**	**1.5%**
Chemicals and Chemical Products	**45**	**43**	**60**	**39**	**56**	**243**	**0.8%**
Other Sources	**233**	**219**	**305**	**322**	**324**	**1,403**	**4.7%**
Source of Injury - Unknown	**1,140**	**1,144**	**676**	**675**	**532**	**4,167**	**14.0%**
Total	**6,140**	**6,341**	**5,892**	**5,548**	**5,754**	**29,675**	**100.0%**

[1] Person – other than injured or ill worker: classifies injuries or illnesses inflicted by family members as well as non-family relations, including co-workers, former co-workers, and patients.
[2] Containers: classifies receptacles commonly used to hold, store or carry materials (examples: dishes, cups and glasses, luggage, etc.).

Data Source: 2005 WCB Data, Prepared by Data Development and Evaluation

In 2005, structures and surfaces accounted for 22.5% of all claims in the ACSA industries. This was 1.5 times higher than the average percentage of injuries for this source of injury category for the whole province. The percentage of lost-time claims caused by minerals – metallic and non-metallic, was 3.6 times higher than the provincial average, while powered hand tools was 2.4 times higher (see Table 3.4B).

Table 3.4B
Source of Injury or Disease — Comparison 2005[6]

Source of Injury or Disease	% of ACSA Industries' Claims	% of Total Provincial Claims	Number of Times Higher/Lower Than the Provincial Average
Structures and Surfaces	**22.5%**	**16.7%**	**1.5**
Persons, Plants, Animals and Minerals	**17.5%**	**24.5%**	**0.8**
Person - Injured Worker	15.5%	17.4%	1.0
Minerals - Metallic or Nonmetallic (except fuel)	1.3%	0.4%	3.6
Person - Other Than Injured or Ill Worker	0.2%	5.0%	0.1
Other Persons, Plants, Animals & Minerals	0.5%	1.7%	1.7
Parts and Materials	**17.7%**	**10.5%**	**1.9**
Tools, Instruments and Equipment	**8.4%**	**6.7%**	**1.4**
Hand tools - Non powered	3.6%	3.4%	1.2
Hand tools - Powered	2.3%	1.1%	2.4
Other Tools and Equipments	2.5%	2.2%	1.3
Vehicles	**6.1%**	**7.4%**	**0.9**
Machinery	**5.3%**	**5.6%**	**1.1**
Containers	**5.3%**	**10.1%**	**0.6**
Furniture and Fixtures	**1.4%**	**3.1%**	**0.5**
Chemicals and Chemical Products	**1.0%**	**1.2%**	**0.9**
Other Sources	**5.6%**	**5.2%**	**1.2**
Source of Injury - Unknown	**9.2%**	**8.8%**	**1.2**

Data Source: 2005 WCB Data, Prepared by Data Development and Evaluation

[6] Number of Times Higher/Lower than the Provincial Average: 1 indicates that the injury percentage of the industries is equal to the provincial average; greater than 1 indicates that the injury percentage of the industries is higher than the provincial average; less than 1 indicates that the injury percentage of the industries is lower than the provincial average. See Appendix A for calculation details.

3.5 Type of Event or Exposure

The type of event or exposure describes the incident or event that occurred at the time of the exposure that directly resulted in the injury or disease. The two most common types of event or exposure comprised 62.4% of total lost-time claims in the ACSA industries in the last five years. They are bodily reaction and exertion, 34.9% and contact with objects and equipment, 27.5% (see Table 3.5A).

Table 3.5A
Type of Event or Exposure — Alberta: 2001-2005

Type of Event or Exposure	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	Total Lost-Time Claims	Total %
Bodily Reaction of Exertion	**2,120**	**2,207**	**2,095**	**1,916**	**2,012**	**10,350**	**34.9%**
Overexertion	1,290	1,208	1,117	972	1,067	5,654	19.1%
Bodily Reaction [1]	620	733	719	637	667	3,376	11.4%
Repetitive Motion	144	177	175	200	176	872	2.9%
Other Bodily Reaction/Exertion	66	89	84	107	102	448	1.5%
Contact with Objects or Equipment	**1,661**	**1,622**	**1,646**	**1,587**	**1,648**	**8,164**	**27.5%**
Struck by Object	907	904	901	867	896	4,475	15.1%
Struck against Object	341	326	358	292	351	1,668	5.6%
Caught in Object	271	283	249	258	243	1,304	4.4%
Rubbed or Abraded	117	79	91	90	95	472	1.6%
Other Contact with Object/Equipment	25	30	47	80	63	245	0.8%
Falls	**1,328**	**1,348**	**1,291**	**1,144**	**1,265**	**6,376**	**21.5%**
Fall to Lower Level	715	735	707	551	633	3,341	11.3%
Fall on Same Level	486	521	480	524	513	2,524	8.5%
Other Falls	127	92	104	69	119	511	1.7%
Transportation Accidents	**254**	**263**	**238**	**258**	**280**	**1,293**	**4.4%**
Exposure to Harmful Substances	**163**	**173**	**191**	**182**	**233**	**942**	**3.2%**
Assaults and Violent Acts	**7**	**5**	**12**	**15**	**14**	**53**	**0.2%**
Assaults and Violent Acts by Person(s)	3	3	9	12	7	34	0.1%
Other Assaults and Violent Acts	4	2	3	3	7	19	0.1%
Fires and Explosions	**21**	**9**	**14**	**12**	**6**	**62**	**0.2%**
Type of Event - Unknown	**586**	**714**	**405**	**434**	**296**	**2,435**	**8.2%**
Total	**6,140**	**6,341**	**5,892**	**5,548**	**5,754**	**29,675**	**100.0%**

[1] Bodily reaction: injuries or illnesses resulting from a single incident of free bodily motion which imposed stress or strain on some part of the body.

Data Source: 2005 WCB Data, Prepared by Data Development and Evaluation

In 2005, overexertion accounted for 18.6% of all claims in the ACSA industries. The average percentage of injuries for this type of event category was higher than the whole province. Percentages of injuries in all type of event categories were equal to or higher than the provincial average, except overexertion, repetitive motions, assault and violent acts and fire and explosions (see Table 3.5B).

Table 3.5B
Type of Event or Exposure — Comparison 2005[7]

Type of Event of Exposure	% of ACSA Industries' Claims	% of Total Provincial Claims	Number of Times Higher/Lower Than the Provincial Average
Bodily Reaction and Exertion	**35.0%**	**41.4%**	**1.0**
Overexertion	18.6%	23.0%	0.9
Bodily Reaction	11.6%	11.8%	1.1
Repetitive Motion	3.1%	4.7%	0.7
Other Bodily Reaction/Exertion	1.8%	1.9%	1.1
Contact With other Objects and Equipment	**28.7%**	**25.5%**	**1.3**
Struck by Object	15.6%	13.2%	1.3
Struck against Object	6.1%	5.5%	1.3
Caught in Object	4.2%	4.4%	1.1
Rubbed or Abraded	1.7%	1.5%	1.3
Other Contact with Object/Equipment	1.1%	0.9%	1.3
Falls	**22.0%**	**16.9%**	**1.5**
Fall to Lower Level	11.0%	5.0%	2.5
Fall on Same Level	8.9%	10.4%	1.0
Other Falls	2.1%	1.5%	1.6
Transportation Accidents	**4.9%**	**4.9%**	**1.1**
Exposure to Harmful Substances	**4.1%**	**4.6%**	**1.0**
Assaults and Violent Acts	**0.2%**	**1.6%**	**0.1**
Assaults and Violent Acts by Person(s)	0.1%	1.3%	0.1
Other Assaults and Violent Acts	0.1%	0.3%	0.5
Fires and Explosions	**0.1%**	**0.2%**	**0.8**
Type of Event - Unknown	**5.1%**	**4.9%**	**1.2**

Data Source: 2005 WCB Data, Prepared by Data Development and Evaluation

[7] Number of Times Higher/Lower than the Provincial Average: 1 indicates that the injury percentage of the industries is equal to the provincial average; greater than 1 indicates that the injury percentage of the industries is higher than the provincial average; less than 1 indicates that the injury percentage of the industries is lower than the provincial average. See Appendix A for calculation details.

3.6 Duration of Disability

Duration of disability[8] is intended to reflect the severity of the effects of occupational injury and disease as reflected by the number of days off work. However, the efforts of employers to introduce modified work programs to integrate injured workers more quickly back into the workforce can have a positive impact on workdays lost.

Over 40% of lost-time claims involved durations of disability between one and ten days. Claims with one to five days duration represented 29.1%, and six to ten days, 12.8%. Claims involving 51 days or more comprised 26.1% (see Table 3.6A).

Table 3.6A
Duration of Disability — Alberta: 2001-2005

						Total	
Duration of Disability	**2001**	**2002**	**2003**	**2004**	**2005**	**Lost-Time Claims**	**%**
1-5 Days	1,750	1,717	1,732	1,632	**1,793**	8,624	29.1%
6-10 Days	816	852	754	665	**709**	3,796	12.8%
11-15 Days	449	421	426	430	**442**	2,168	7.3%
16-20 Days	308	294	269	279	**310**	1,460	4.9%
21-30 Days	452	413	409	421	**435**	2,130	7.2%
31-40 Days	336	343	334	341	**347**	1,701	5.7%
41-50 Days	273	310	259	278	**271**	1,391	4.7%
51 Days or More	1,685	1,907	1,567	1,329	**1,246**	7,734	26.1%
Unspecified	71	84	142	173	**201**	671	2.3%
Total	**6,140**	**6,341**	**5,892**	**5,548**	**5,754**	**29,675**	**100.0%**

Data Source: 2005 WCB Data, Prepared by Data Development and Evaluation

[8] The duration of disability refers to the length of time, in days, for which the worker receives wage compensation from the WCB.

In 2005, lost-time claims with one to five days duration of disability accounted for 31.2% of all claims in the ACSA industries. Percentages of injuries in all duration categories were equal to or higher than the provincial average except claims with one to five days duration of disability (see Table 3.6B).

Table 3.6B
Duration of Disability — Comparison 2005[9]

Duration of Disability	% of ACSA Industries' Claims	% of Total Provincial Claims	Number of Times High/Lower Than the Provincial Average
1-5 Days	31.2%	40.4%	0.9
6-10 Days	12.3%	13.8%	1.0
11-15 Days	7.7%	7.9%	1.1
16-20 Days	5.4%	5.3%	1.2
21-30 Days	7.6%	6.9%	1.3
31-40 Days	6.0%	5.0%	1.4
41-50 Days	4.7%	3.6%	1.5
51 Days or More	21.7%	13.4%	1.8
Unspecified	3.4%	3.6%	1.1

Data Source: 2005 WCB Data, Prepared by Data Development and Evaluation

[9] Number of Times Higher/Lower than the Provincial Average: 1 indicates that the injury percentage of the industries is equal to the provincial average; greater than 1 indicates that the injury percentage of the industries is higher than the provincial average; less than 1 indicates that the injury percentage of the industries is lower than the provincial average. See Appendix A for calculation details.

SECTION 4

OCCUPATIONAL FATALITIES

In 2005 the WCB accepted 53 fatalities in the ACSA industries, accounting for 37.1% of all 143 fatalities in the province.

A WCB accepted occupational fatality is defined as the death of a worker, resulting from a work-related incident or exposure, which has been accepted by the WCB for compensation. Some of the fatalities accepted in a particular year occurred in prior years. Unless otherwise specified, occupational fatalities in this report refer to occupational fatalities accepted by the WCB. The WCB classifies occupational fatalities into three general types:

Motor Vehicle Incidents

Motor vehicle incidents typically involve non-industrial vehicles operating on public roads in which the fatally injured worker was either the driver or a passenger. This type of occupational fatality also includes cases involving aircraft crashes, train crashes, helicopter crashes and water vehicle crashes. In 2005, 16 ACSA fatalities accepted by the WCB were motor vehicle incidents (see Table 4.0).

Workplace Incidents

Workplace incidents consist of cases in which the worker died at a worksite or as a result of injuries sustained at a worksite. This is the type of fatality that AHRE typically investigates. In 2005, 14 ACSA fatalities accepted by the WCB were workplace incidents (see Table 4.0).

Occupational Disease

Occupational disease fatalities consist mostly of recognized occupational disease, that is, disease known to be primarily or exclusively work-related. This category also includes heart attacks suffered on the job. Occupational diseases are frequently diagnosed several years after the initial or crucial exposure to the toxic substance and, in such cases, it is difficult to determine when the fatal exposure occurred. *The occupational disease category, therefore, should not be interpreted to reflect present worksite hazardous conditions or exposures.*

Each year the WCB accepts some occupational fatality claims for compensation. Occupational fatality claims that were accepted in a particular year may include fatalities from prior years. In 2005, 23 fatalities accepted by WCB in ACSA industries were occupational disease incidents (see Table 4.0).

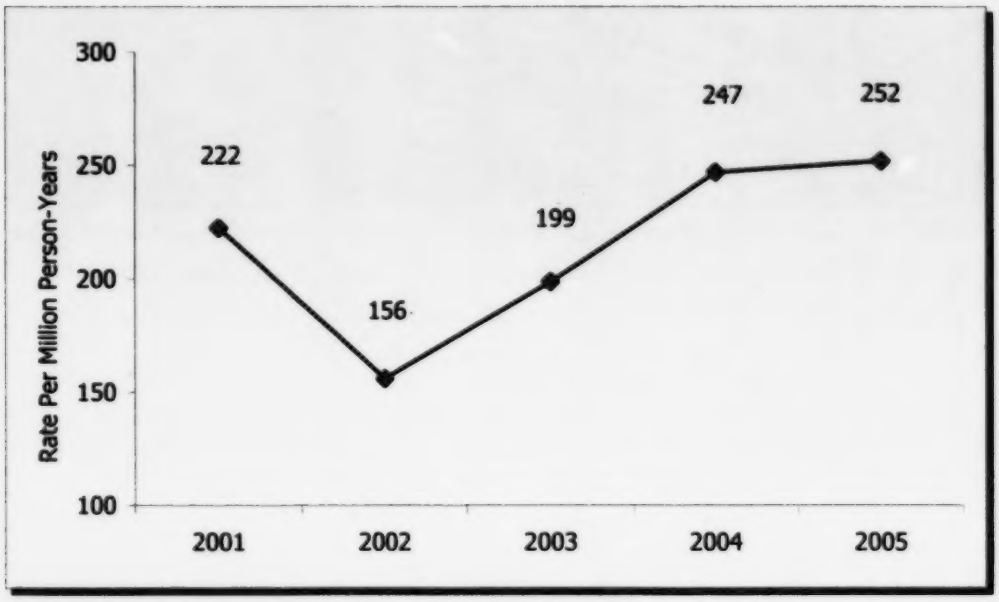
Table 4.0
Types of Occupational Fatalities Accepted by the WCB – Alberta: 2001-2005

Year	Motor Vehicle Incident		Workplace Incident		Occupational Disease		Total
	Number of Fatalities	%	Number of Fatalities	%	Number of Fatalities	%	Number of Fatalities
2001	6	18.2%	9	27.3%	18	54.5%	33
2002	6	24.0%	10	40.0%	9	36.0%	25
2003	9	27.3%	11	33.3%	13	39.4%	33
2004	10	22.7%	10	22.7%	24	54.5%	44
2005	**16**	**30.2%**	**14**	**26.4%**	**23**	**43.4%**	**53**
Total	47	25.0%	54	28.7%	87	46.3%	188

Data Source: 2005 WCB Data, Prepared by Data Development and Evaluation

The fatality rate is calculated by dividing the number of accepted fatalities in the year by the number of person-years in that year. The result is expressed as "per million person-years." The 2005 fatality rate was 252 per million person-years, an increase of 2.0% from 2004 (see Chart 4.0).

Chart 4.0
Fatality Rate[10] in ACSA Industries: 2001-2005



Data Source: 2005 WCB Data, Prepared by Data Development and Evaluation

[10] Estimates are based upon information provided by the WCB. Fatalities occurring under Government of Canada jurisdiction are excluded from the calculation of the fatality rates.

Between 2001 and 2005, the WCB accepted 188 fatalities in the ACSA industries. The Roadbuilders sub-sector had the most with 64 accepted fatalities, accounting for 34.0% of all fatalities in the ACSA industries. There were no fatalities in the Glaziers sub-sector over the past five years (see Table 4.1).

Table 4.1
ACSA Occupational Fatalities Accepted by the WCB by Sub-Sector – Alberta: 2001-2005

Sub-Sector	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	Number of Fatalities	%
ACSA Industries	**33**	**25**	**33**	**44**	**53**	**188**	**100.0%**
Construction Trade Services	6	4	6	4	**5**	25	13.3%
Industrial Construction	7	4	7	12	**18**	48	25.5%
Mechanical, Electrical and Insulation	10	5	6	6	**15**	42	22.3%
Roadbuilders	10	8	13	19	**14**	64	34.0%
Roofers	0	2	0	1	**1**	4	2.1%
Masonry	0	2	1	1	**0**	4	2.1%
Lime, Cement and Concrete Products Manufacturing	0	0	0	1	**0**	1	0.5%

Data Source: 2005 WCB Data, Prepared by Data Development and Evaluation

SECTION 5

CERTIFICATE OF RECOGNITION EMPLOYERS

A Certificate of Recognition (COR) is given to employers who develop health and safety programs that meet established standards. Certificates are issued by Certifying Partners and are co-signed by AHRE[11].

In 2005, 5.5% of ACSA industries' employers were COR holders. These employers accounted for 47.4% of all person-years in the ACSA industries. The Roadbuilders sub-sector had the highest proportion of CORs. 12.5% of employers in this sub-sector had valid CORs in 2005 and covered 72.2% of person-years in this sub-sector (see Table 5.0).

Table 5.0
Employers With Valid COR — Alberta: 2005

Sub Sector	Number of Certified Employers	Total Number of Employers	% of Total Employers Certified	% of Total Person-Years Certified
ACSA Industries	**2,149**	**39,089**	**5.5%**	**47.4%**
Construction Trade Services	228	13,991	1.6%	15.3%
Glaziers	33	627	5.3%	31.7%
Industrial Construction	454	8,857	5.1%	53.0%
Lime, Cement & Concrete Products Manufacturing	43	1,296	3.3%	27.3%
Masonry	7	287	2.4%	39.2%
Mechanical, Electrical and Insulation	357	5,071	7.0%	55.2%
Roadbuilders	961	7,703	12.5%	72.2%
Roofers	66	1,257	5.3%	34.7%

Data Source: 2005 WCB Data, Prepared by Data Development and Evaluation

[11] For more information on the COR program visit http://www.hre.gov.ab.ca/cps/rde/xchg/hre/hs.xsl/277.html

In both 2004 and 2005, employers with a valid 2005 COR experienced lower lost-time claim rates than non-COR holders. In the ACSA industries, the lost-time claim rate for COR holders was 2.0 per 100 person-years in 2005, while the rate for non-COR holders was 3.4. For the province, employers with a valid COR and non-COR holders both had lost-time claim rates of 2.4 per 100 person-years in 2005 (see Table 5.1).

Table 5.1
Lost-Time Claim Rate for 2005 ACSA COR Holders — Alberta: 2004 and 2005

Employer	Year	ACSA Industries				Province			
		LTCs	Person-Years	LTC Rate	Change in LTC Rate	LTCs	Person-Years	LTC Rate	Change in LTC Rate
COR	2004	1,920	83,726	2.3	-12.1%	10,563	431,347	2.4	-3.0%
	2005	2,012	99,835	2.0		11,093	467,041	2.4	
Non-COR	2004	3,628	94,533	3.8	-11.9%	23,869	921,867	2.6	-6.2%
	2005	3,742	110,686	3.4		24,367	1,003,280	2.4	

Data Source: 2005 WCB Data, Prepared Data Development and Evaluation

A

APPENDIX A: TERMS, DEFINITIONS AND FORMULAS

Lost-Time Claim

A lost-time claim (LTC) is a claim for an occupational injury or disease that causes the worker to have time away from work beyond the day of injury. Included are claims receiving reimbursement of full or partial lost wages due to occupational illness or injury, or payment for permanent loss of function.

Person-Years

Person-years are estimates calculated from wage and payroll data provided by account holders to the WCB. Alberta Human Resources and Employment uses data to estimate an average industry wage, and uses the average industry wage and employer payroll data to estimate person-years for each employer and each industry. One person-year is equivalent to one full-time worker working for one year, and can be assumed to equal 2,000 hours worked.

Lost-Time Claim Rate

The lost-time claim (LTC) rate is calculated by dividing the number of lost-time claims by the person-year estimate, and multiplying the result by 100. The LTC rate represents the probability or risk of an injury or disease to a worker during a period of one-year work, that will result in time lost from work. Comparisons of LTC rates between industries, or between years, can be used to indicate increases, decreases, or differences in this risk.

$$\text{LTC Rate} = \frac{\text{Number of LTCs} \times 100}{\text{Person-Years}}$$

Duration (Days Lost)

The duration of disability is the number of days following the injury or disease for which the worker was disabled and unable to perform normal work duties. This information is obtained for this report from data on compensation days paid on each claim from the WCB. Alberta Human Resources and Employment obtains these data on March 31 of the year following the claim year, and does not update the information, even though many injured workers continue to be disabled beyond this date. As a result, the duration information reported here underestimates the true impact of lost-time injury and disease.

Duration Rate

The duration rate is calculated by dividing the number of workdays lost (disability days) by the person-year estimate, and multiplying by 100. The result is expressed as days lost per 100 person-years, and indicates, in part, the economic impact of occupational injury and disease. Duration rates are not recommended as reliable indicators of full economic cost. In addition, readers are warned that duration rates are highly unstable when based on only a few lost-time claims; it is recommended that the duration rate not be calculated based upon fewer than 30 lost-time claims.

$$\text{Duration Rate} = \frac{\text{Disability Days} \times 100}{\text{Person-Years}}$$

Cost of Claims

Compensation cost of a claim is the reimbursement of full or partial lost wages that a worker received from the WCB due to occupational illness or injury.

WCB Accepted Fatality

An occupational fatality is the death of a worker which resulted from a work-related incident or exposure and which has been accepted by the WCB for compensation. A fatality is counted in the year it is accepted.

Fatality Rate

The fatality rate is calculated by dividing the number of accepted fatalities by the person-years estimate and multiplying the result by one million. The result is expressed as fatalities per million person-years. Fatalities that are found under the jurisdiction of the Government of Canada are excluded before the calculation of the fatality rate.

$$\text{Fatality Rate} = \frac{\text{Number of Fatalities} \times 1{,}000{,}000}{\text{Person-Years}}$$

Number of Times Higher/Lower than the Provincial Average

The number of times higher/lower than the provincial average is used to compare the performance of the industries with the province regarding specific injury or disease. A number less than one indicates that the injury of the industries is lower than the provincial average; if equal to one it indicates the injury of the industries is the same as the provincial average and a number greater than one indicates that the injury of the industries is higher than the provincial average.

$$\frac{\text{Percent of Total Claims for the Industries} \times \text{Industries' LTC Rate}}{\text{Percent of Total Claims for the Province} \times \text{Provincial LTC Rate}}$$

Where:

Percent of Total Claims for the Industries =

$$\frac{\text{Number of LTCs for the Industries (e.g. back injury)} \times 100}{\text{Total LTCs for the Industries}}$$

Percent of Total Claims for the Province =

$$\frac{\text{Number of LTCs for the Province (e.g. back injury)} \times 100}{\text{Total LTCs for the Province}}$$

NEC Means 'Not Elsewhere Classified'.

UNS Means 'Unspecified'.

B

APPENDIX B: ACSA WCB INDUSTRY CODES[12]

1. Construction Trade Services

02100 – Landscaping Including Maintenance
40401 – Construction, Residential
40405 – Residential General Contractor
42111 – Painting and Decorating
42113 – Tile and Terrazzo, Sales/Installation
42115 – Paving Stone, Sales/Installation
42125 – Floor Covering, Sales/Installation
42133 – Cabinets and Counters, Assemble/Installation
42135 – Drywall, Plaster, Lath and Stucco, Sales/Installation
42136 – Underground Sprinklers, Sales/Installation/Service
42141 – Suspended Ceiling and Acoustic Materials, Assemble/Installation
42143 – Wood Framing
42147 – Finishing Carpentry
42155 – Moving of Buildings

2. Glaziers

30302 – Overhead Doors, Installation/Repair
42121 – Door and Window, Manufacturing/Installation

3. Industrial Construction

40400 – Construction and Industrial General Contracting
42105 – Prefabricated Steel Structures Erect/Removal
42106 – Structural Steel Erect
42109 – Stationary Machinery or Equipment, Install/Service
42120 – Sandblasting
42127 – Fence Sales, Rent, Installation
42129 – Industrial Plant Maintenance
42156 – Storage Tanks Erect/Dismantle
42159 – Piling, Caisson Operations and Foundation Boring
42161 – Precast Concrete Erect/Installation
51504 – Cathodic Protection Services
62302 – Machinery or Equipment–NEC, Sale/Service/Repair
86911 – Manpower Services– Industrial Labour
89401 – Welding
89605 – Service Station Equipment, Sales/Installation/Repair
89928 – Scaffolding and Tower Cranes, Rental/Erect

[12] Codes are Workers' Compensation Board 2004 industry codes.

4. Masonry

42102 – Brick and Masonry Construction

5. Mechanical, Electrical and Insulation

31508 – Servicing (Only) of Overhead Cranes
42110 – Elevators and Escalators, Installation/Service
42117 – Heating, Ventilation, Air Systems, Installation/Service
42122 – Plumbing, Steam and Gas Fitting
42124 – Electrical Instrumentation Contracting
42144 – Fire Sprinklers Systems, Sales/Service/Installation
42184 – Mechanical Insulation, Installation/Service
89600 – Refrigeration Equipment, Sales/Service

6. Roadbuilders

02200 – Right-of-Way Maintenance, Industrial
34800 – Transit Mix Operations
40602 – Paving and Surfacing
40604 – Mobile Equipment Operations, Road Construction
40901 – Power Lines, Construction/Removal
40905 – Pipeline Construction
42103 – Drilling, Horizontal or Angular

7. Roofers

42118 – Roofing
42139 – Waterproofing, Industrial Coating Applications
42151 – Siding, Soffit, Eaves Trough, Fabrication/Installation

8. Lime, Cement and Concrete Producers Manufacturing

42104 – Concrete Construction

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Alberta Human Resources and Employment website:

http://www.hre.gov.ab.ca/cps/rde/xchg/hre/hs.xsl/563.html

Work Safe Alberta website:

http://www3.gov.ab.ca/hre/whs/worksafely/index.asp

Workplace Health and Safety Contact Centre:

Telephone: 780-415-8690, toll free by calling 1-866-415-8690

http://www.hre.gov.ab.ca/cps/rde/xchg/hre/hs.xsl/2874.html

Certificate of Recognition (COR) Program:

http://www.hre.gov.ab.ca/cps/rde/xchg/hre/hs.xsl/277.html